

REMARKS

Applicants request favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Independent Claims 1, 12, 23, and 24 are pending in the present application. Claims 5, 16 and 25-28 have been cancelled without prejudice.

By this Amendment, Claims 1, 12, 23, and 24 have been amended. Support for these amendments can be found in the original application as filed. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

Claims 24 and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claim 28 is now cancelled, and Claim 24 has been amended to recite a computer-readable storage medium as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants request favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Applicants appreciate the indication that Claims 5 and 16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 1, 12, 23, and 24 have been amended to incorporate the features recited in Claim 5 and in Claim 16. Applicants submit that the cited art fails to disclose or suggest at least those features, and therefore Claims 1, 12, 23, and 24 are believed to be patentable over the art of record.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the above-mentioned Office Action, and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. L. Klock", is written over a horizontal line.

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